

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Federal Communications Commission
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street S.W.

News media information 202 / 418-5000
Fax-On-Demand 202 / 418-2830
Washington, D.C. 20554 DOCKET FILE COPY ORIGINAL ftp.fcc.gov

DA 04-2135

Before the Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Released: July 16, 2004

# FEE DECISIONS OF THE MANAGING DIRECTOR AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC

The Managing Director is responsible for fee decisions in response to requests for waiver or deferral of fees as well as other pleadings associated with the fee collection process. A public notice of these fee decisions is published in the FCC record.

The decisions are placed in General Docket 86-285 and are available for public inspection. A copy of the decision is also placed in the appropriate docket, if one exists.

The following Managing Director fee decisions are released for public information:

Chatham Broadcasting Co, Inc. – Request for waiver of the late charge penalty regarding fiscal year 2003 regulatory fees for WNCA-AM Metairie, LA Denied (June 7, 2004) [See Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003, Report and Order, 18 FCC Rcd 15,985, 15998 (2003)]

contactMEO Communications, LLC – Request for a refund of an application processing fee Granted (June 15, 2004) [SeeC.F.R. §§1.1108 and 1.1113(a)]

**D & E Communications of Ohio** - Request for waiver of the late charge penalty regarding fiscal year 2003 regulatory fees for WABQ Inc. **Denied** (June 18, 2004) [See Amendment of Parts 1, 21, 61, 73, 74 and 76 of the Commission's Rules, Adoption of a Mandatory FCC Registration Number, Report and Order, 16 FCC Rcd 16138, 16143 (2001)]

DIRECTV Enterprises, LLC – Request for waiver of an application processing fee Granted (June 15, 2004) [See Letter from Mark Reger, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), Office of Managing Director (OMD), FCC, to Stephen R. Bell, Esq. and Jennifer D. McCarthy, Esq. (dated Sept. 13, 2001) see also Letter from Mark Reger, CFO, OMD, FCC, to Patricia J. Paoletta, Esq., Todd M. Stansbury, Esq., and Jennifer D. Hindin, Esq. (dated June 24, 2002)]

Loral SpaceCom Corporation (Debtor-in Possession), Loral Satellite, Inc (Debtor-In Possession), Loral Orion, Inc. (Debtor-In Possession), Loral Skynet Network Services, Inc. (Debtor-In Possession) – Request for waiver and deferment of payment of the FY 2003 regulatory fee Granted in part (June 7, 2004) [See Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003, Report and Order, FCC 03-184, ¶¶ 13-14, rel: July 25, 2003 (FY 2003 Fee Report & Order) see also FY 2003 Fee Report & Order, supral

Net Radio Group Communications, LLC – Request for a waiver and refund of an application processing fee Granted (June 15, 2004) [See Establishment of a Fee Collection Program To Implement the Provisions of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, 3 FCC Rcd 3558, 3572-73 (1990)]

Network Access Solutions Corporation - Request for waiver of the regulatory fee and the associated late charge penalty for fiscal year 2003 Granted (June 7, 2004) [See Implementation of Section 9 of the Communications Act, 9 FCC Red 5333, 5346 (1994), on recon, 10 FCC Red 12759 (1995)]

RCS Communications Group - Request for waiver of the late charge penalty regarding fiscal year 2003 regulatory fees Denied (June 7 2004) [See 47 C.F.R. §1.1157; see also Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003, Report and Order, 18 FCC Rcd 15, 985 (2003) (2003 Report and Order); 47 U.S.C. §159]

SNC Telecommunication, LLC - Request for waiver and refund of an application processing fee Granted (June 7, 2004) [See 47 U.S.C. §158(d)(2), 47 C.F.R. §1.1117(a); Establishment of a Fee Collection Program to Implement the Provisions of the Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1985, 5 FCC Rcd 3558, 3572-73 (1990)]

Universal Cablevision, Inc. - Request for waiver of the late charge penalty regarding fiscal year 2003 regulatory fees Denied (June 18, 2004) [See 47 C.F.R. §1.1157; see also Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003, Report and Order, 18 FCC Rcd 15, 985 (2003) (2003 Report and Order); 47 U.S.C. §159]

Valley Broadcasting Company – Request for a reduction of the FY 2003 regulatory fee for KBJN-TV Ely, NV Granted (June 7, 2004) [See 47 C.F.R. §1.1166(d)]

NOTE: ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS REPORT SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE REVENUE AND RECEIVABLES OPERATIONS GROUP AT (202) 418-1995.

# FILE

# FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION Washington, D. C. 20554

JUN 7 2004

OFFICE OF MANAGING DIRECTOR

Barry Hayes
President & General Manager
Chatham Broadcasting Co., Inc.
Post Office Box 429
Siler City, North Carolina 27344

Re: Chatham Broadcasting Co., Inc. Station WNCA-AM Fiscal Year 2003 Regulatory Fee Fee Control No. 00000RROG-04-053 Bill Number: 0320001106

Dear Mr. Hayes:

This is in response to your request dated March 26, 2004, filed on behalf of Chatham Broadcasting Co., Inc. (Chatham), licensee of Station WNCA-AM, for a waiver of the late charge penalty for late payment of the fiscal year (FY) 2003 regulatory fee. Our records reflect that Chatham has not paid the \$100.00 late charge penalty.

In your request, you assert that the regulatory fee was paid in a timely manner because the check is dated September 23, 2003. You state that you sent the regulatory fee through the regular United States postal service and "there was a reasonable expectation that it would arrive" two days later by the payment deadline (i.e., September 25, 2003). You also state that the extreme flooding caused by Hurricane Isabelle and Station WNCA's "[p]ublic safety and community service" efforts during the two-week period after the hurricane may have delayed delivery of the regulatory fee payment. You add that "due to an error in the Commission's database which cast [the station] . . . into a grossly exaggerated market size[,]" Chatham overpaid its regulatory fees in 1995 and 1996. You conclude that WNCA operates on total billings of less than \$150,000 per year "with little cash flow left over for equipment upgrades, employee incentives, or arbitrary administrative penalties."

The Communications Act of 1934, as amended, requires the Commission to assess a late charge penalty of 25 percent on any regulatory fee not paid in a timely manner. It is the obligation of the licensees responsible for regulatory fee payments to ensure that the Commission receives the fee payment no later than the final date on which regulatory fees are due for the year. Your request does not indicate or substantiate that Chatham met this obligation. Therefore, your request for a waiver of the late charge penalty for late payment of the FY 2003 regulatory fee is denied.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Commission extended the FY 2003 filing deadline because of the power outage caused by Hurricane Isabel. See Assessment and Collection of Regulatory Fees for Fiscal Year 2003, Report and Order, 18 FCC Rcd 15985, 15998 (2003); Public Notice, Federal Communications Commission Extends the Filing Deadline Date of FY 2003

Accordingly, payment of the 25 percent late charge penalty of \$100.00 is due. The late charge penalty should be submitted, together with a copy of Bill Number 0320001106 (copy enclosed) within 30 days of the day of this letter. If you have any questions concerning this matter, please contact the Revenue & Receivables Operations Group at (202) 418-1995.

Sincerely,

Mark A. Reger

Chief Financial Officer

**Enclosure** 

# 00000 RROU-04-053 **WNCA-AM 1570**

17890 US 64 West P.O.Box 429 Siler City, NC 27344 Phone: 919-742-2135

Fax: 919-663-2843

Fax

Tom Putnam To. FCC

fax 202-418-2643

Phone: ----

Chatham Broadcasting Co. Inc. From: Barry Horges

Pages: 3

Date: 4-6-04

Ref: Letter dated 3-26-04 Response + Request of Penalty Waiver Chatham Broadcasting Co., Inc. of Siler City dba WNCA-AM Radio Station Post Office Box 429 Siler City, North Carolina 27344

March 26, 2004

Office of the Managing Director
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, Southwest – Room 1A821
Washington, D. C. 20554

Reference: 2003 Regulatory Fee

Dear Person-In-Charge:

The purpose of this letter is (1) to deny the claim made by the Commission's letter of March 3, 2004, which alleges that Chatham Broadcasting was late in paying the 2003 Regulatory Fee for WNCA-AM; and (2) to request a waiver of the assessed 25% late payment penalty in the amount of \$100.

In fact, the \$400 fee was paid in a timely manner by our company bookkeeper within the window of time allowed by the Commission as indicated by the date on the check. There is absolutely no known or conjectured reason why it would not have been, as we have been making these regulatory fee payments since 1994 and have never been delinquent. Once the payment left our office, however, it was entirely in the custody of the U.S. Postal Service until it arrived at your office. We did not 'overnight' it or send by registered mail as we had experienced no problems in the ten years prior, and there was a reasonable expectation that it would arrive at the Commission's bank within the allotted time-frame. It is interesting to note that the Commission also used the US mail to send the notification letter to us, and it apparently took five or six days to make the trip.

Extenuating circumstances during the period of mid to late September of 2003 may have also included the turnoil along the east coast (NC & VA) caused by Hurricane Isabelle, which made landfall on September 18th, causing extreme flooding and possibly delaying mail deliveries in the aftermath. Also during the payment window, WNCA was engrossed in hurricane tracking, storm information & preparation, recovery information, and appeals for loading a local tractor-trailer with non-perishable food items, bottled water, and personal hygiene items. Public safety and community service may have demanded our undivided attention for that two-week period, but the fact remains that we go the 2003 regulatory payment out on-time.

Aside from these recollections, it is well to note that Chatham Broadcasting overpaid its regulatory fees in 1995 and 1996, due to an error in the Commission's database which cast us into a grossly exaggerated market size. Although the population errors were corrected in the 1997 database, the over-billing was never adjusted, resulting in over-payment of approximately \$450 for the two years!

Finally, WNCA operates on total billings of less than \$150,000 per year -- supporting a staff of eight (two of which are minorities) — with little cash flow left over for equipment upgrades, employee incentives, or arbitrary administrative penalties. WNCA operates as a totally 'live', full-service, family-oriented, community radio station in a diversely populated rural market, providing 48 hours a week of locally produced Spanish language programming in a city of license which is 40% Hispanic. Our signal reaches out only 15 to 20 miles daytime and about 4 to 5 miles at night; and many times we have considered just closing the doors and 'going home', as our efforts are so meagerly rewarded.

(2)

We think the Commission could do a better service to the industry by regulating the rampant indecency, vulgarity, and all-around lack of community service commonplace with so many radio stations today which have abandoned their cities of license to saturate more lucrative markets – instead of 'nickle & diming' the little guy who has respect for his listeners and his license; and we humbly thank you for your consideration of our request for waiver of the assessed late payment penalty of \$100.

Respectfully submitted,

Chatham Broadcasting Co., Inc. of Siler City

Berry Hayes President & General Manager

CC: Mr. Michael Powell, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission

Mr. Michael Copps, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission

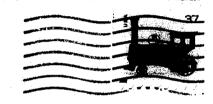
The Honorable Howard Coble, Congressman U. S. House of Representatives

Gary Smithwick, Esquire Smithwick & Belendiuk, P. C.

WNCA Public File







P.O. Box 358835

Pittsburg, PA 15251-5835

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SEP 29 2003

FCC/MELLON

GCT 0/2/2003

READ INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE PROCEEDING

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION REMITTANCE ADVICE

Approved by OMi 3060-058 Page 1

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Siler City A				
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### Non-Public For Internal Use Only

## RAMIS ACCOUNT RECEIVABLES

## Check Number Query Report

**FEE Control Number:** 

0101098315343002

**Customer FRN** 

0003762242

**FRN Name** 

Matsushita Electric Corporation

America

Check Number

Receipt Amount

705309

\$985.00

Date Received:

01/08/2001

FEE Control Number:

0106228130062019

999999982

**FRN Name** 

**GENERIC FRN** 

**Check Number** 

**Customer FRN** 

7053

Receipt Amount

\$85,00

Date Received:

06/21/2001

FEE Control Number:

0109058994388024

999999982

**FRN Name** 

**GENERIC FRN** 

**Check Number** 

**Customer FRN** 

7053

Receipt Amount

\$120.00

Date Received:

09/04/2001

**FEE Control Number:** 

0310038835139015

**Customer FRN** 

0003778503

**FRN Name** 

Chathern Broadcasting Co., II

Siler City

**Check Number** 

705300000000

Receipt Amount

\$400.00

Date Received:

10/02/2003

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1 of 2

#### IFMIS ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - (c) DSG, Inc. OPEN BILL DOCUMENTS

4/06/2004 10:47:50

CUST NO. DOCUMENT NO.

0003778503 0320001106

BILL AMT: INT DUE: TRAN TYPE:

\$100.00 BILL PAID: \$0.00 PEN DUE:

\$0.00 \$0.00 10/06/03

BILL BAL DUE: ADMIN DUE: DUE DATE:

\$100.00 \$0.00 TOTAL DUE:

\$100.00

BILL CYCLE:

FINE

RELEASE DATE: REFERRAL CODE: BILL DESC: Assess penalty for late regulatory fee EFT:

11/05/03 00004699

TRANS DATE: 10/06/03 ACCT PERIOD:

SEQ:

1 ITEM AMT: PRODUCT:

\$100.00 0399

ITEM PAID: QTY: BUR FILE NO: \$0.00

0310038835

COMMENTS: payment not received by 09/25/03

ITEM BAL DUE: DOC STATUS: BUREAU NAME:

\$100.00

STATUS DT:

11/05/03 IA NUMBER:

CODE VLTN: IDENTIFIER: CONTACT NAME:

BFY: 2004 FUND: 08 PROG: 90

ORG: 9500

CONTACT NO: PROJ: 065 **BOC: 0199 TYPE:** 

TOTAL FOR CUSTOMER NO. 0003778503

\$100.00

25%. Late payment penalty

AR012-A 4/06/2004 10:47:27

#### RAMIS ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - (c) DSG, Inc. RECEIPTS DETAIL REPORT SORTED BY TRANSACTION DATE, CD No., FEE CONTROL No.

PAGE 1 4/06/2004 10:47:27

CD No.	CD DATE FEE CONTROL NO.	FRN PAYER NAME		TRANSACTION DATE	RECEIPT AMOUNT
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PTC:	Seq: 1 Call Sign: 0335 - QTY: 1	NNCA FCC Code 1: Applied Amt: 400,00	FCC Code 2:		Tin Number:

PIC: 0335 QTY:
Applicant Name: CHATHAM BROADCASTING CO INC
Address: 17890 US 64 HIGHWAY WEST

Total Applied:

\$400.00

Total Receipt:

\$400.00

FY 2003 Resulctory fee payment



#### Non-Public For Internal Use Only

## RAMIS ACCOUNT RECEIVABLES

### **Check Number Query Report**

FEE Control Number: 0101098315343002

Customer FRN : 0003762242

**FRN Name** 

Matsushita Electric Corporation of

America

Check Number

: 705309

Receipt Amount

: \$985.00

Date Received: 01/08/2001

FEE Control Number: 0106228130062019

Customer FRN

: 9999999982

**FRN Name** 

: GENERIC FRN

Check Number

: 7053

Receipt Amount

: \$85.00

Date Received: 06/21/2001

FEE Control Number: 0109058994388024

**FRN Name** 

**GENERIC FRN** 

Customer FRN Check Number

: 7053

: 9999999982

Receipt Amount

: \$120.00

Date Received: 09/04/2001

FEE Control Number: 0310038835139015

Customer FRN

: 0003778503

**FRN Name** 

Chatham Broadcasting Co., Inc. of

Siler City

Check Number

705300000000

Receipt Amount

: \$400.00

Date Received: 10/02/2003

AR012-A 4/26/2004 11:04:29

#### RAMIS ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - (c) DSG, Inc. RECEIPTS DETAIL REPORT SORTED BY TRANSACTION DATE, CD No., FEE CONTROL No.

4/26/2004 11:04:29

\$400.00

Tin Number:

TRANSACTION CD No. CD DATE FEE CONTROL NO. PAYER NAME DATE RECEIPT AMOUNT Seq: 1 Call Sign: WNCA FCC Code 1:
PTC: 0335 QTY: 1 Applied Amt: 400.00
Applicant Name: CHATHAM BROADCASTING CO INC
Address: 17890 US 64 HIGHWAY WEST 560818 10/03/03 0310038835139015 0003778503 Chatham Broadcasting Co., Inc. 10/02/03 \$400.00

Total Applied: \$400.00 Total Receipt:

FCC Code 2:

#### IFMIS ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE - (c) DSG, Inc. OPEN BILL DOCUMENTS

PAGE 5/26/2004 9:51:51

CUST NO. DOCUMENT NO.

0003778503 0320001106

TRAN TYPE: FINE BILL CYCLE:

BILL PAID: PEN DUE: RELEASE DATE: REFERRAL CODE: 10/06/03

BILL BAL DUE: ADMIN DUE: DUE DATE: EFT:

\$100.00 \$0.00 11/05/03 00004699

TOTAL DUE: TRANS DATE: 10/06/03 ACCT PERIOD: 11

IA NUMBER:

\$100.00

BILL DESC: Assess penalty for late regulatory fee

0399

\$100.00

\$0.00

PROG: 90

\$0.00 ITEM BAL DUE: DOC STATUS:

\$100.00 0

**STATUS DT:** 11/05/03

CODE VLTN: IDENTIFIER: CONTACT NAME: BFY: 2004 FUND: 08

BILL AMT:

INT DUE:

1 ITEM AMT:

PRODUCT:

SEQ:

\$100.00 ITEM PAID: QTY:

BUREAU NAME: 0310038835 BUR FILE NO: COMMENTS: payment not received by 09/25/03 CONTACT NO: BOC: 0199 TYPE: ORG: 9500 PROJ: 065

\$0.00 \$0.00

TOTAL FOR CUSTOMER NO. 0003778503

\$100.00

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# Federal Communications Commission Washington, D.C. 20554

March 3, 2004

Chatham Broadcasting Co., Inc. of Siler City 17890 US Hwy 64 West PO Box: 429 Siler City, NC 27344

Re: Bill No. 0320001106

### Dear Licensee:

This letter is notice that you were late paying your 2003 annual regulatory fee(s). Payment of regulatory fees was due to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) by 11:59 pm, September 25, 2003. Your fee payment of \$400.00 was received on October 2, 2003.

In accordance with Section 9 [47 USC 159(c)(1)], a 25 percent late penalty in the amount of \$100.00 has been assessed. Unless you can show just cause why the penalty is inapplicable, payment is due within 30 days from the date of this letter.

Payment should be sent to the Federal Communications Commission, Regulatory Fees, P.O. Box 358340, Pittsburgh, PA 15251-8340, along with a copy of the enclosed billing invoice.

If you have any documentation that will establish that the fee was remitted and received at Mellon Bank by September 25, 2003, such as a carrier dated receipt, please include this documentation with your response and your record(s) will be adjusted accordingly.

You are cautioned that failure to respond and/or pay the penalty will subject you to further sanctions as defined in 47 CFR, Section 1.1164 of our Rules. These sanctions include subjecting the delinquent payer's pending applications to dismissal, and may require a delinquent payer to show cause why any existing instruments of authorization should not be revoked. Further sanctions include interest charges and the full cost of collection to the Federal government pursuant to Section 3720A of the Internal Revenue Code, 31 USC 3717, and the provision of the Debt Collection Improvement Act, 31 USC 3717.

If you have any questions, you may contact my office at (202) 418-1995.

Sincerely,

April & Spile

Claudette E. Pride, Chief

Revenue and Receivables Operations Group

Enclosure